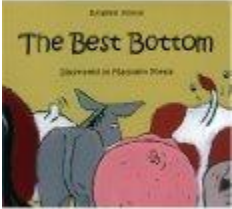
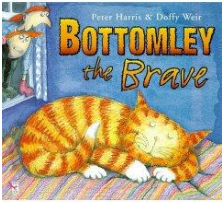
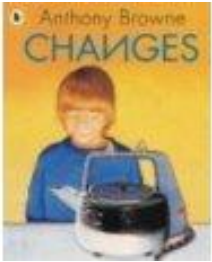

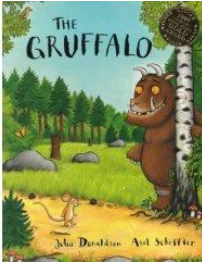




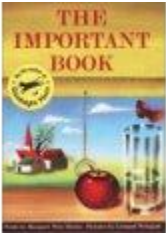
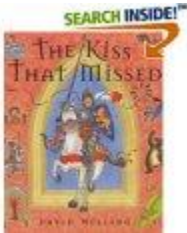
Top 20 Picture Books for P4C with Young Children

Front cover	Book details	Concepts	Ages	Overview and potential questions	Links
 <p>Amazon Link</p>	<p>The Best Bottom</p> <p>Brigitte Minne <i>Macmillan</i></p>	<p>Arguing Competition Fairness Name calling Opinion Vanity</p>	<p>4 to 9</p>	<p>All the farm animals decide to have a competition to find the best bottom in the farmyard. Whilst they're all grooming their bottoms they begin to argue and then to fight. Meanwhile, a frog who'd recently hopped into the farmyard and assumed he couldn't enter the competition because he didn't have a tail (and what is a bottom without a tail?) straps a bouquet of flowers to his bottom and takes 1st prize</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is OK to be vain? • Are all competitions good? • How can you decide what is best? • Is it fair to gain an advantage? • Are beauty contests fair? 	<p>Concept Stretchers:</p> <p><i>Fairness</i></p>
 <p>Amazon Link</p>	<p>Bottomley the Brave</p> <p>Peter Harris <i>Red Fox Picture</i></p>	<p>Bravery Greed Imagination Lies Truth</p>	<p>4 to 9</p>	<p>The story of a plump, lazy, but highly imaginative ginger cat whose hair-raising account of his confrontation with a gang of ruthless burglars is curiously at odds with the reality of the illustrations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What's the difference between telling lies and telling stories? • Is it sometimes OK to tell lies? • When is it not good to tell stories? • Can scaredy cats sometimes be brave? 	
 <p>Amazon Link</p>	<p>Changes</p> <p>Anthony Browne <i>Walker Books Ltd</i></p>	<p>Appearance Arrival of a new sibling Changes Normality</p>	<p>5 to 11</p>	<p>A day in the life of Joseph, in which everything seems to change in the most peculiar of ways. The washbasin grows feet, the armchair becomes a gorilla, his bicycle wheel turns into an apple...Joseph's father had said when he'd left that morning that everything was going to change. But what had he meant? The book explores the boy's state of mind as he prepares for the return of his parents with his new baby sister.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is change inevitable? • If one thing in your life changes, can it cause everything else to change? • Can one thing change and everything else stay the same? • Is wondering worse than knowing? • If normal means everything staying the same, does that mean nothing is normal? 	<p>Concept Stretchers:</p> <p><i>Growth and Change</i></p>

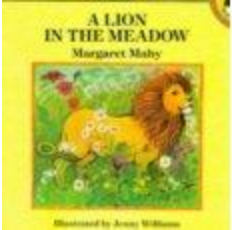
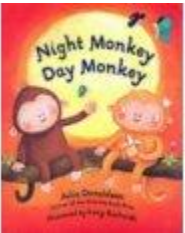
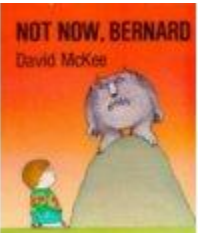
Top 20 Picture Books for P4C with Young Children

 <p>Amazon Link</p>	<p>Flop Ear</p> <p>Guido Van Genechten</p>	<p>Being different Being normal Being the same Fitting in Name calling Self esteem Teasing</p>	<p>3 to 9</p>	<p>Flop-ear the bunny rabbit has one floppy ear. All the other bunnies make fun of him, so he tries everything to correct it: sticking a carrot in his ear, hanging upside down and tying a balloon to it. But nothing works so, fed up of being teased, Flop-ear goes to see the doctor who tells him it's fine to be different. On his return to the warren, all the other bunnies rejoice that he's back and try to make their ears floppy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should we all try to be the same? • Do we have to be the same to be equal? • Is it OK to have a laugh if it makes someone sad? • Is it always good to have a laugh? • Is anybody normal? 	
 <p>Amazon Link</p>	<p>The Gruffalo</p> <p>Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler</p> <p><i>Macmillan Children's Books</i></p>	<p>Being scared Believing Bravery Eating animals Predictions Reality Telling lies</p>	<p>4 to 11</p>	<p>An absolute classic. More often than not the Gruffalo is the first story we use with a primary group for their first philosophy session. It is a rhyming story of a mouse and a monster. The little mouse goes for a walk in a dangerous forest. To scare off his enemies, he invents tales of a fiercesome creature called the Gruffalo. Imagine his surprise when he meets the real Gruffalo!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the Gruffalo real? • How can you tell when someone is telling lies? • How did the mouse know what the Gruffalo was like? • Why were the animals scared of the little mouse? • Is it OK for animals to be eaten? 	
 <p>Amazon Link</p>	<p>The Gruffalo's Child</p> <p>Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler</p> <p><i>Macmillan Children's Books</i></p>	<p>Boredom Bravery Cunning Fascination/curiosity Legends Perception Reputation Thinking skills</p>	<p>4 to 11</p>	<p>The Gruffalo warns his child to beware of the Big Bad Mouse; however the little gruffalo sneaks out when her dad is asleep in search of this mystical beast. Using her dad's description of the mouse as a clue to track him down she sets off on her journey meeting all the other creatures on the way. Each creature reinforces the legend of the Big Bad Mouse as a gruffalo eater. When the Gruffalo's child meets the mouse, the mouse saves himself by using the shadows to scare the Gruffalo's child.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What thinking skills did the Gruffalo's child use to track down the mouse? • Is your reputation built upon people's perceptions of you rather than who you really are? • Is it brave or stupid to put yourself in a dangerous situation? • Can you make people believe you are a totally different person than you really are? 	

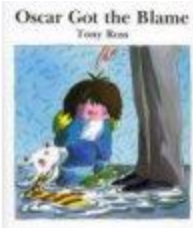
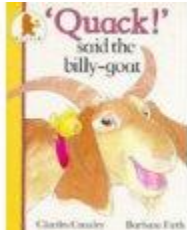
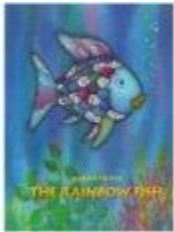
Top 20 Picture Books for P4C with Young Children

 <p>Amazon Link</p>	<p>I'll Always Love You</p> <p>Hans Wilhelm <i>Hodder Children's Books</i></p>	<p>Ageing Death Friendship Life cycle Love Playing</p>	<p>3 to 9</p>	<p>A story about a boy and his dog. They're inseparable friends, always playing and getting up to mischief. But over the years, Elfie the dog grows old and slow until one night she dies in her sleep. The boy buries Elfie in the garden and lays a flower on her grave. He tells Elfie that he'll always love her and when offered a new puppy, he declines.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does it feel like to lose something we love? • What does 'always' mean? • Is something more special if it belongs to you? • Is it important to do things together with those we love? • Can a pet be your best friend? 	
 <p>Amazon Link</p>	<p>The Important Book</p> <p>M W Brown & L Weisgard <i>Harper Collins</i></p>	<p>Change Identity Important</p>	<p>4 to 9</p>	<p>The book is very good starting point for talking to young children about the concepts like important, change and identity. It could also be a good book to use if you are in the early stages of building up the children's enquiry skills. The pattern of the book is that the writer suggests various things like: rain, a spoon or a daisy. For each item, the writer lists some qualities or purposes and gives an opinion as to the most important. The book ends on the subject of 'you'.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What makes something important? • What makes you, you? • If you had a different name, would you still be you? • Does everything about you change over time? • Will you still be the same you when you are old? 	<p>P4C Library: The Important Book</p>
 <p>Amazon Link</p>	<p>The Kiss that Missed</p> <p>David Melling <i>Hodder Children's Books</i></p>	<p>Being in a hurry Bravery Fairy tales Love Magic Monsters/dragons</p>	<p>5 to 9</p>	<p>The little prince's goodnight kiss has gone missing. It escaped into the forest where it had no place to be. So the brave and fearless knight is sent on a mission to bring it back. But is the knight brave and fearless enough?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does love have magical powers? • Do dragons exist? • What makes someone brave and fearless? • Does love always make things better? • Does hurrying make things go faster or slower? 	

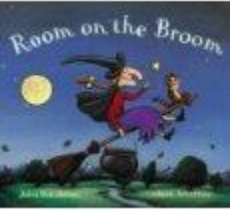
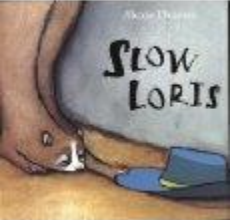
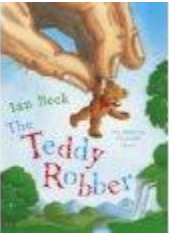
Top 20 Picture Books for P4C with Young Children

 <p>Amazon Link</p>	<p>A Lion in the Meadow</p> <p>Margaret Mahy <i>Puffin Books</i></p>	<p>Assumptions Believing other people Having no name Imagination Reality</p>	<p>5 to 11</p>	<p>This story is based around the dilemma of believing there is a lion in the meadow even though your mother does not believe you. To placate the situation, the boy's mother gives him a matchbox with a dragon in it to scare the lion away. However, the lion is really there and soon becomes best friends with the little boy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do you know when to believe other people? • How does it feel when people don't believe you? • What would life be like if we were all referred to as 'boy' or 'girl' rather than by our own names? • In what way were the lion and the dragon 'real'? • Was the mother wrong to assume there was no dragon in the matchbox? 	
 <p>Amazon Link</p>	<p>Night Monkey, Day Monkey</p> <p>Julia Donaldson & Lucy Richards <i>Egmont Books Ltd</i></p>	<p>Compromise Differences Friendship Give and take Sharing</p>	<p>4 to 11</p>	<p>A story about two friends, a night monkey and a day monkey. They are best friends but live in very different worlds: what one of them loves, the other one fear. Presuming they need to be the same as each other, they try spending time in each other's worlds but struggle to see what the other sees. In the end they come to understand that they can have different interests and beliefs yet still be best friends.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you have to compromise to be friends? • Can we see the world as others see it? • Is friendship built upon shared experiences? • Do friends always have something in common with each other? • Can you be friends with someone who's the complete opposite of you? 	
 <p>Amazon Link</p>	<p>Not Now Bernard</p> <p>David McKee <i>Red Fox</i></p>	<p>Being noticed Feeling valued Patience Reality</p>	<p>3 to 9</p>	<p>The perennial and well-loved classic picture book story about parents too preoccupied to notice their own child. Bernard's parents are so busy doing their own thing, that they don't notice the monster in the garden, nor see when the monster eats Bernard. In fact, the monster can eat Bernard's dinner, break his toys, and even say 'But I'm a monster', without being noticed!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does it feel not to be noticed? • Was there really a monster in Bernard's garden? • What do adults mean when they say children are 'little monsters'? • What types of monsters are there in the world? 	


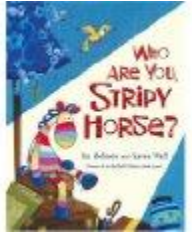
Top 20 Picture Books for P4C with Young Children

 <p>Amazon Link</p>	<p>Oscar Got the Blame</p> <p>Tony Ross <i>Andersen Press Ltd</i></p>	<p>Blame Imaginary friends Pretend Reasons</p>	<p>4 to 9</p>	<p>Oscar and Billy were the best of friends but when Billy dressed the dog in Dad's clothes - Oscar got the blame, and when Billy put frogs in Granny's slippers - Oscar got the blame. No one ever believes Oscar's explanation of events or believes that Billy even exists. It's just not fair when your invisible friend is such a naughty boy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In what ways do imaginary friends exist? • Can imaginary friends make you do things? • Was it fair that Oscar got the blame for everything? • Is someone always to blame? • Can some things happen without any reason? 	
 <p>Amazon Link</p>	<p>'Quack!' Said the Billy-Goat</p> <p>Charles Causley & Barbara Firth <i>Candlewick Press</i></p>	<p>Animals talking Communication Language Subverting expectations</p>	<p>3 to 7</p>	<p>'Quack!' said the billy-goat; 'Oink!' said the hen; 'Miaow!' said the little chick running in the pen.; so begins the story. This is a nice book to use with very young children (from 3 onwards) as they will enjoy making the right sounds for each animal. There isn't much of a story to it but the illustrations are great and the story simple enough for the youngest philosophers.</p> <p>Possible questions might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can animals talk? • Why does it sound wrong for a billy-goat to say 'quack!'? • Is it impossible for a goat to sound like a duck? • If so, does that mean goats can't talk to ducks? • Can dogs talk to cats, or cows talk to sheep? 	
 <p>Amazon Link</p>	<p>The Rainbow Fish</p> <p>Marcus Pfister <i>North South Books</i></p>	<p>Arrogance Beauty Humility Popularity Self-satisfaction Vanity</p>	<p>4 to 9</p>	<p>The Rainbow Fish is the most beautiful fish in the sea, but he has no friends because he is just too beautiful to play with any of the others. The wise octopus tells him to share his beauty with the other fish in order to make friends. The Rainbow Fish gives away his shiny scales one by one, but gains a sense of satisfaction from pleasing others as well as gaining a group of new friends.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should we change ourselves in order to be popular? • Is it important to please other people? • What makes something beautiful? • Is vanity a weakness? • Is popularity the same as being liked? 	

Top 20 Picture Books for P4C with Young Children

 <p>Amazon Link</p>	<p>Room on the Broom</p> <p>Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler <i>Campbell Books</i></p>	<p>Fantasy Friendship Helping others Magic/Reality Scariness Stereotyping</p>	<p>3 to 11</p>	<p>This is the story of a good-natured witch and her cat that collect other friends as they fly through the sky on their broomstick. A good general stimulus with enough concepts to stimulate the novice and experienced inquirers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is it always a good thing to help others? • What makes this witch a good witch? • Is magic real? • If you do something nice, should you expect something nice in return? 	
 <p>Amazon Link</p>	<p>Slow Loris</p> <p>Alexis Deacon <i>Red Fox</i></p>	<p>Being bored Being different Captivity Nicknames Reasons Secrets Zoos</p>	<p>4 to 11</p>	<p>Slow Loris is a sloth. All the other animals in the zoo think he's boring because he never seems to do anything. They call him names and make fun of him behind his back. But Slow Loris has got a secret! In the middle of the night, Loris is wild! He has parties, has lots of fun and really enjoys himself (which is why he moves so slowly during the day: he's worn out!) Once the animals discover his secret, they all join in the fun and now they're all like Loris during the day: slow, tired and boring?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do we all have secrets? • Is it good to share (or have) a secret? • Can something that is boring, also be interesting? • Should we use nicknames? • Are animals kept in zoos for people's entertainment? 	
 <p>Amazon Link</p>	<p>The Teddy Robber</p> <p>Ian Beck <i>Corgi Children's Books</i></p>	<p>Forgiveness Possessions Reasons Stealing</p>	<p>4 to 9</p>	<p>Someone is stealing teddies. But who could it be? Who is the Teddy Robber? When Tom's own teddy is snatched in the dead of night, he is determined to get to the bottom of the mystery... The mystery is solved when Tom helps the giant, who has been stealing all the teddies, to find his long-lost teddy and to return all the stolen teddies to their rightful owners.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If someone returns what they have stolen, does that make it OK? • Is there a reason for every action? • Would it be possible to steal anything if we didn't have possessions? • Is stealing ever right? • Is it OK to take back something that has been stolen or is that still stealing? 	

Top 20 Picture Books for P4C with Young Children

 <p>Amazon Link</p>	<p>Where's My Teddy?</p> <p>Jez Alborough <i>Candlewick Press</i></p>	<p>Being scared Comfort Fears Lost and found Love Size</p>	<p>4 to 8</p>	<p>Whilst Eddie's looking for his lost teddy, he comes across a very large teddy bear in the woods. The he spots a gigantic bear with a tiny teddy. The big bear and Eddie both realise they've got each other's teddies but being scared of each other, they grab their own teddy and run back to their own beds, where they cuddle up close to their teddies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do we all need cuddles? • What makes something scary? • Why is it comforting to have a teddy bear? • Why do some places feel safe, whilst others feel scary? 	
 <p>Amazon Link</p>	<p>Who are you, Stripy Horse?</p> <p>Jim Helmore and Karen Wall Egmont Books Ltd</p>	<p>Being unique Helping each other Friends Identity Knowledge Talents Wisdom</p>	<p>4 to 9</p>	<p>In the tick-tock quiet, a shaft of moonlight tickles the nose of something sleeping. It's a stuffed, stripy horse. He twitches. Then an enormous dusty sneeze echoes round the room. He's awake. So begins this charming story, all about a forgotten toy who can't remember his name. He is befriended by Muriel (a hummingbird who flutters off the pattern on a lamp), Hermann (a daft draught excluder), and Wedgie and Woodie (penguin-shaped salt and pepper shakers), and embarks on an adventure to meet Ming, a wise and ancient Chinese vase cat, who is the only person in the shop who might be able to tell him who he is.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are you who other's think you are? • What's the difference between being wise and being clever? • Does everybody have talents? • What are friends for? • Does everyone and everything have a name? 	<p>Concept Stretchers:</p> <p><i>Identity</i></p>